

Fourth Message from the President
August 11th, 2021

IMSA Colleagues,

Today is a special day for my family. My daughter Hope (in the middle) turns three and she will have to face the tough decision of cake or ice cream for this evening. Although, anyone brave enough to ride a lion might even deserve both!



The IMSA Cabinet has been actively planning for your arrival, and we can't wait to see you next week on Community Day. I hope you check out my [welcome back video](#) for colleagues. Breakfast on Community Day will be ready starting at 7:30 a.m. with our program starting at 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. In anticipation of our time together, don't forget to take this two-minute [IMSA United Poll](#). Tell us what you're excited about, your favorite part about working at IMSA and suggestions to help with a successful transition. As a thank you, we'll draw 50 prizes among those who respond for IMSA Swag. The poll closes August 12, 2021.

[View Welcome Back Video](#)

I'd like to share some updates on three important priorities:

Deeply Understand IMSA and the People Who Make it Amazing

I've really enjoyed getting to know you during office hours and can't wait to meet more of you on Community Day. I will continue office hours through the fall, and hope you sign up so I can learn from you. I love hearing your stories and what excites you about your work.

CHOOSE FROM THE OFFICE HOURS BELOW:

[On-Campus Office Hours](#)

[Virtual Office Hours](#)

In addition to colleagues, recently I've had a chance to meet some of our student leadership groups and have been quite impressed by their preparation for the school year, especially from rising 12th graders who desire to support their peers and reignite culture. I shared appreciation for their commitment to bring back a sense of belonging as we focus on well being at the start of the school year.

Re-open School in Person, not Just Operationally in a Safe Manner, but also Culturally

I hope you have had a chance to view our [Return to Learn and Work Plan](#), accompanied by a [colleague web portal](#) where you can find FAQ. Your questions help us improve our clarity, so keep them coming! We plan to post plan updates, data from our COVID testing, and links to the latest public health guidance so you feel informed. On Community Day, we will offer an initial overview with highlights and FAQ from the plan with an outlet to ask more detailed questions later in the week. Also on that day, we will seek input during breakout sessions regarding our interest to support your wellness, colleague engagement and feeling *United*. Two housekeeping items: First, as a health mitigation

measure, we wish to validate temperatures of all colleagues through one location at the main doors on the east side of the building. You should park your vehicle in that location. There is plenty of east parking lot capacity. Also, be on the lookout for an email from IMSA Canvas with the Health and Safety Training which should be completed prior to your arrival on campus.

Build on Our Equity and Excellence Plan

This week, the Senior Leadership Team is engaging in a two-day workshop on Courageous Conversations to continue our professional learning and become more culturally proficient. I know this is a learning journey for me, and I look forward to getting better at it. On Community Day, you will learn more about our goals for Year 2 of our Equity and Excellence Plan and will have an opportunity to engage in reflection questions. With over a year away physically from campus, we have to imagine that some equity gaps may have widened. We will need to recognize how our students are showing up, and develop a collective effort to respond to their academic, social and emotional needs.

In recognition for our equity and excellence efforts, I have some wonderful news to share. The Great Lakes Equity Center has awarded IMSA as recipient of the 2021 Equity Innovator Award! This is a wonderful recognition of Traci Ellis and Adrienne Coleman's leadership, the equity lens we view our work, and our collective efforts to create safe, inclusive spaces for our students and each other. This is very important work that we will continue to advance as we return to learn and work in person, *United*, in support of our students' and each other's well-being.

Titans Together,
Evan

Dr. Evan M. Glazer
President

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